Ecologically sustainable farming systems

2668. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that country's grocery list for 2030 will need to feed 1.3 billion people which would not been easy as the population is growing at the rate of 1.8 per cent per year;

(b) whether the nutritional insecurity and unemployment and hidden hunger caused by deficiency of micronutrients needs priority attention;

(c) whether it is also true that paradigm shift from community centered to ecologically sustainable farming systems is needed as per ICAR; and

(d) if so, what sincere steps Government are taking to achieve the said objectives with great scientific care and discretion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) India's population is projected to exceed 1.3 billion in 2020. A regionally differentiated strategy based on agro-climatic regional planning which takes into account agronomic, climatic and environmental conditions, will be adopted to realise the full potential of growth in every region and achieve the objective of doubling food production and make India hunger-free in ten years.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) In order to have ecologically sustainable farming systems, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research is promoting integrated use of eco-friendly organic (farm yard manure, green manure, phospho-compost, enriched compost, bio-fertilizers, etc.) and inorganic fertilizers.